



**Kent  
Police**

**Protecting and serving** the people of Kent

21<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Dear parent, carer, guardian,

There have been a number of incidents in various schools whereby students have been posting material including comments and videos in relation to members of staff on social media platforms such as TikTok.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you and your child that any person posting such material could potentially be committing a criminal offence. One such offence could be under the Malicious Communications Act 1988:

Any person who sends to another person—

(a) a letter, electronic communication or article of any description which conveys—

(i) a message which is indecent or grossly offensive;

(ii) a threat; or

(iii) information which is false and known or believed to be false by the sender; or

(b) any article or electronic communication which is, in whole or part, of an indecent or grossly offensive nature.

As schools police officers we work within your schools, aiming to educate, reduce harm, divert children away from criminality and reduce exclusions.

Please see attached an information sheet that highlights several trusted websites reflecting the safe use of the internet. These websites will assist you in helping your child get the most out of the internet, provide advice on keeping your child safe online as well as encouraging conversation with your child around safe use.

If you are worried for the safety or wellbeing of a child or if you are a victim of child abuse yourself, find out the different ways you can get in touch and report your concerns by visiting: [kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/caa/child-abuse/](https://kent.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/caa/child-abuse/)  
If you suspect someone is in immediate danger, then call 999.

If you would like any further advice, please contact your school or your school police officer.

Yours sincerely

Peter Steenhuis

Supt.

Head of Strategic Partnerships & Child Centred Policing